

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 21270 201447Z

44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20

RSC-01 INR-10 PA-04 PRS-01 DPW-01 OMB-01 IO-14 AID-20

DRC-01 /133 W

----- 057650

O P 200830Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0174

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL BIEN HOA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC

CDRUSSAG NAKHON PHANON TH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 21270

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS

SIEJECT: DELTA HIGHPOINT

PARIS FOR AMBASSADOR MARTIN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRJI FROM AMCONSUL CAN THO

O R 200700Z DEC 73 IS REPEATED HEREE FOR YOUR ACTION/INFO:

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAN THO 0890

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS

SUBJECT: DELTA HIGHPOINT

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 21270 201447Z

REF: CAN THO 0888

1. THE LAST 24 HOURS SAW A FURTHER INCREASE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA. MR 4 REPORTED A TOTAL OF 123 VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS THE NIGHT OF DECEMBER 19-20, TOPPING THE PREVIOUS 24 HOURS PERIOD'S HIGH OF 88 (REFTEL) AND CONTINUING TWT PRESENT HIGHPOINT INTO ITS SECOND DAY. THE INCIDENTS WERE MAINLY ATTACKS BY FIRE (75) AND HARASSMENTS (38). THERE WERE EIGHT GROUND ATTACKS. ALTHOUGH THE MR 4 G-2 TERMED MOST INCIDENTS INSIGNIFICANT, CASUALTIES WERE ALSO UP MARKEDLY. GVN LOSSES WERE 51 KILLED (38 THE PRECEDING DAY) AND 200 WOUNDED (92). THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS LOST WAS NOT AVAILABLE. (THE PREVIOUS DAY'S LOSSES WERE 28.) VC/NVA FORCES REPORTEDLY SUFFERED 151 KILLED (80 YESTERDAY).

2. ACTIVITY CONTINUED MOST WIDESPREAD IN THE SOUTHERN DELTA (VC MR 3). CHUONG THIEN RECORDED 39 INCIDENTS AND BA XUYEN 28. IN THE NORTHERN DELTA (VC MR 2), DINH TUONG RSQAINED THE PRIMARY COMBAT ARENA WITH 27 INCIDENTS.

3. THE MR 4 CHIEF OF STAFF DECEMBER 20 NOTED THE HIGHPOCPTS COINCIDENCYWITH VC HOLIDAYS (REFTEL) AND SPECULATED THAT ONE VC AIM MAY BE TO KEEP TROOP MORALE UP. HE GAVE AS ANOTHER POSSIBLE MOTIVE FOR THE HIGHPOINT THE CONTINUING VC INTEREST IN DISRUPTING THE RICE HARVEST.

LEHMANN

UNQUOTE.

BENNETT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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